

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 MADRID 07087 141802Z

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ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 /017 W
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R 141516Z OCT 75
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO USIA WASHDC
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3258
AMEMBASSY LISBON

UNCLAS MADRID 7087

USIAC

USIA FOR ICS/DA; STATE FOR CU/ARTS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL

SUBJECT: CROFUT/COOPER DUO

1. POST DISTRESSED OVER 11TH HOUR WITHDRAWAL BARROQUE AND FOLK DUO, CROFUT AND COOPER, FROM THEIR SPANISH COMMITMENTS. CONSIDERABLE TIME AND EFFORT EXPENDED IN SCHEDULING EIGHT AND POSSIBLY NINE CONCERTS FOR THEM WITH SPANISH PROGRAMMING COOPERATION OF SOME SUBSTANCE. CANCELLATION THREE DAYS BEFORE ETA IN SPAIN IS EXTREMELY IRREGULAR AND HIGHLY UNPROFESSIONAL. THIS ACTION WAS EMBARRASSING TO POST AND COULD TEND TO PREJUDICE PROGRAM COOPERATION OF THE LEVEL ACHIEVED FOR THESE PRESENTATIONS. A TELEPHONE CALL FROM PAO LISBON TO PAO SPAIN OCT. 8 WAS FIRST KNOWLEDGE OF THIS WITHDRAWAL. NO FORMAL STATEMENT OR NOTIFICATION ON THE PART OF THE PRINCIPALS HAS BEEN RECEIVED. CROFUT DID CALL POST FROM LISBON ON OCT. 10 TO EXPRESS REGRET FOR EVENTS.

2. THE COOPERATION OF "SOME SUBSTANCE" THE POST HAD STIMULATED FOR PROGRAMMING THIS PUTATIVELY OUTSTANDING DUO CONSISTED OF FOUR UNIVERSITY CONCERTS AND A PRESENTATION IN MADRID'S ELITE CULTURAL CENTER, THE ATENEO; AGREEMENT FOR FIRST TIME RECENT YEARS BY MIN/EDUCATION TO FINANCE ALL HONORARIA COSTS OF GROUP FOR FOUR CONCERTS, WITH THIS TO HAVE BEEN MODEL FOR SUBSEQUENT CULTURAL PROGRAMS IN UNIVERSITIES, INCLUDING "HICKORY WIND" (SCHEDULED FOR UNCLASSIFIED

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NOV. 6 AND 7). THE ATENEO CONCERT, AS WELL AS ONE IN SORIA, WAS

ALSO ARRANGED THROUGH LOCAL FINANCING, NAMELY EX-GRANTEE ASSOCIATION,

3. WHILE ON LEAVE IN LONDON SEPT. 26, CAO ELLY DISCUSSED SPANISH TOUR WITH BOTH CROFUT AND COOPER. THOUGH THIS WAS PERIOD OF MOST INTENSE FOREIGN CRITICISM SPANISH DEVELOPMENTS, NEITHER EXPRESSED RESERVATIONS ABOUT VISITING SPAIN, BUT INDICATED EXCITEMENT AT POSSIBILITIES OF PERFORMING AND TRAVLEING IN COUNTRY. THEIR PRINCIPAL CONCERN SPANISH TOUR WAS NOT POLITICS BUT WHETHER A HARPSICHORD WOULD BE PROVIDED FOR MOST OF THEIR CONCERTS.

4. THE POST WOULD HAVE PREFERRED AN EARLIER AND MORE PERSONAL CANCELLATION BY CROFUT AND COOPER. PERHAPS A REASONED COLLOQUY ON THE MATTER DEVOID OF CHARGED RHETORIC, ASSIMILATED IN AREAS WHERE ANTIPATHIES ARE STRONGEST, MAY HAVE CAST A DIFFERENT LIGHT ON THEIR PERFORMING. PERHAPS NOT. IN ANY EVENT, THE MANNER OF DISENGAGEMENTS IS CONSIDERED BY THE POST UNPROFESSIONAL AND NOT IN KEEPING WITH THE STATURE OF CULTURAL EVENTS PROGRAMMED OR FACILITATED BY USG AGENCIES. IT IS HOPED THIS INCIDENT WILL NOT GO ADMINISTRATIVELY IGNORED BY PROGRAMMING AUTHORITIES.

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